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# Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia

Experimental weekly estimates on the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on employee jobs and wages, sourced from Single Touch Payroll data

Reference period Week ending 2 May 2020

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Released 19/05/2020

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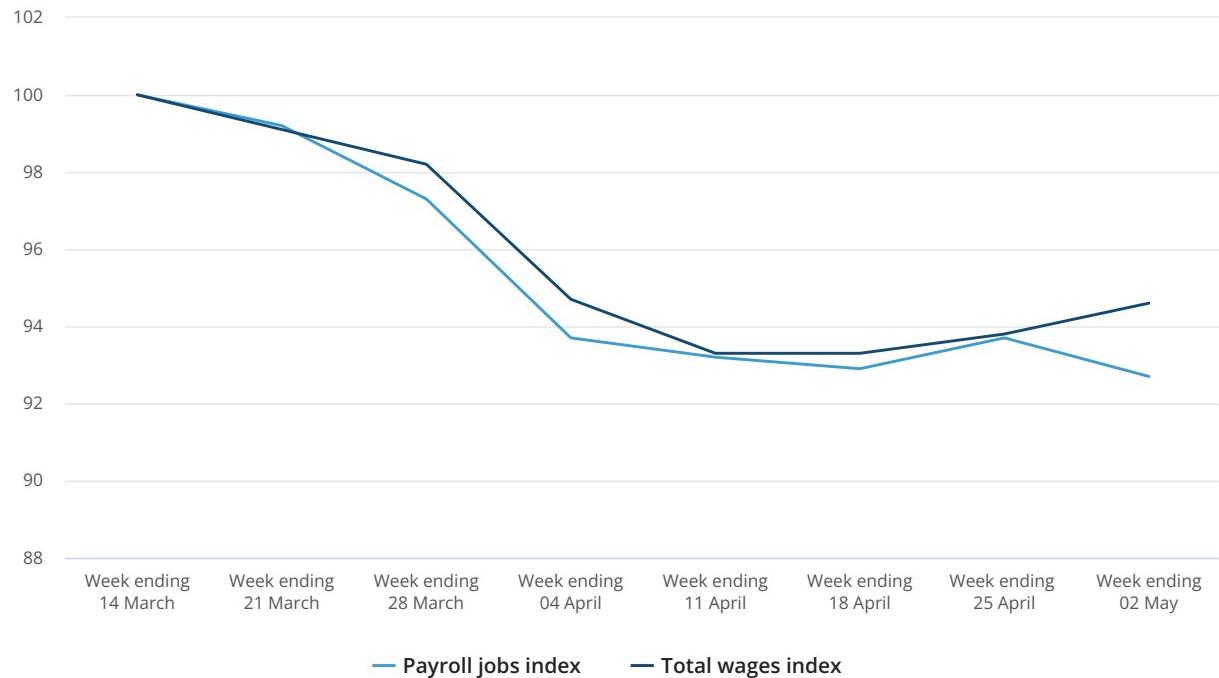
## Key statistics

Between the week ending 14 March 2020 (the week Australia recorded its 100th confirmed COVID-19 case) and the week ending 2 May 2020:

- Payroll jobs decreased by 7.3%
- Total wages paid decreased by 5.4%

## Key findings

Graph 1 - Changes in payroll jobs and total wages indexed to the week ending 14 March 2020



Between the week ending 25 April 2020 and the week ending 2 May 2020:

- Payroll jobs decreased by 1.1%, compared to an increase of 0.9% in the previous week
- Total wages paid increased by 0.9%, compared to an increase of 0.5% in the previous week

Key COVID-19 dates:

- 22 March: Prime Minister announces Stage 2 lock down changes, which are progressively implemented
- 30 March: Prime Minister announces JobKeeper program
- 8 May: Initial payroll deadline for the JobKeeper program

## Jobs and wages by state and territory

Since the week ending 14 March 2020 (the week Australia recorded its 100th confirmed COVID-19 case) the largest changes were:

- Payroll jobs: Victoria decreased by 8.4% and New South Wales decreased by 7.7%
- Total wages: Western Australia decreased by 7.0% and Victoria decreased by 6.7%

Between the week ending 25 April 2020 and the week ending 2 May 2020, the largest changes were:

- Payroll jobs: Victoria decreased by 1.9% and New South Wales decreased by 1.8%
- Total wages: Tasmania increased by 4.3% and Queensland increased by 2.8%

**Table 1 - Percentage changes by states and territories (a)**

	Change in payroll jobs between 25 April and 2 May	Change in payroll jobs between 14 March and 2 May	Change in total wages between 25 April and 2 May	Change in total wages between 14 March and 2 May
NSW	-1.8%	-7.7%	-0.2%	-4.9%
Vic.	-1.9%	-8.4%	-0.1%	-6.7%
Qld	0.6%	-6.1%	2.8%	-4.6%
SA	0.0%	-7.2%	2.3%	-2.9%
WA	-0.7%	-5.9%	1.9%	-7.0%
Tas.	0.2%	-7.2%	4.3%	-3.2%
NT	0.1%	-4.0%	2.0%	-1.9%
ACT	-0.6%	-7.0%	2.7%	-4.3%
<b>Australia</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>	<b>-7.3%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>-5.4%</b>

a. These estimates are revised as additional data become available. Particular care should be exercised in focusing on weekly movements in wages, which are subject to a higher degree of reporting variability and revisions.

## Jobs and wages by sex

Since the week ending 14 March 2020 (the week Australia recorded its 100th confirmed COVID-19 case):

- Payroll jobs: Those worked by females decreased by 7.1% and those worked by males decreased by 6.9%
- Total wages: Payments to males decreased by 7.6% and payments to females decreased by 1.9%

Between the week ending 25 April 2020 and the week ending 2 May 2020:

- Payroll jobs: Those worked by males decreased by 1.6% and those worked by females decreased by 0.6%
- Total wages: Payments to females increased by 2.0% and payments to males increased by 0.2%

**Table 2 - Changes by sex**

	Change in payroll jobs between 25 April and 2 May	Change in payroll jobs between 14 March and 2 May	Change in total wages between 25 April and 2 May	Change in total wages between 14 March and 2 May
Males	-1.6%	-6.9%	0.2%	-7.6%
Females	-0.6%	-7.1%	2.0%	-1.9%
All persons	-1.1%	-7.3%	0.9%	-5.4%

## Jobs and wages by age group

Since the week ending 14 March 2020 (the week Australia recorded its 100th confirmed COVID-19 case), the largest changes were:

- Payroll jobs: Those worked by people aged under 20 decreased by 14.6% and those worked by people aged 70 and over decreased by 11.0%
- Total wages: Payments to people aged under 20 increased by 16.8% and payments to people aged 40-49 decreased by 7.3%

Between the week ending 25 April 2020 and the week ending 2 May 2020, the largest changes were:

- Payroll jobs : Those worked by people aged under 20 increased by 4.6% and those worked by people aged 30-39 decreased by 2.0%
- Total wages : Payments to people aged under 20 increased by 7.5% and payments to people aged 20-29 increased by 2.3%

**Table 3 - Changes by age group**

	<b>Change in payroll jobs between 25 April and 2 May</b>	<b>Change in payroll jobs between 14 March and 2 May</b>	<b>Change in total wages between 25 April and 2 May</b>	<b>Change in total wages between 14 March and 2 May</b>
Aged under 20	4.6%	-14.6%	7.5%	16.8%
20-29 years olds	-0.5%	-10.7%	2.3%	-3.9%
30-39 years olds	-2.0%	-6.2%	0.0%	-6.0%
40-49 years olds	-1.8%	-5.3%	0.4%	-7.3%
50-59 years olds	-1.1%	-4.5%	1.0%	-5.9%
60-69 years olds	-0.5%	-4.9%	1.9%	-3.6%
70 years and over	-1.9%	-11.0%	-0.9%	-3.2%
<b>All persons</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>	<b>-7.3%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>-5.4%</b>

## Jobs and wages by industry

Since the week ending 14 March 2020 (the week Australia recorded its 100th confirmed COVID-19 case) the largest changes were:

- Payroll jobs: Accommodation and food services decreased by 27.1% and Arts and recreation services decreased by 19.0%
- Total wages : Mining decreased by 22.2% and Manufacturing decreased by 12.0%

Between the week ending 25 April 2020 and the week ending 2 May 2020, the largest changes were:

- Payroll jobs: Professional, scientific and technical services decreased by 8.0% and Information media and telecommunications decreased by 5.3%
- Total wages: Arts and recreation services increased by 10.0% and Accommodation and food services increased by 6.1%

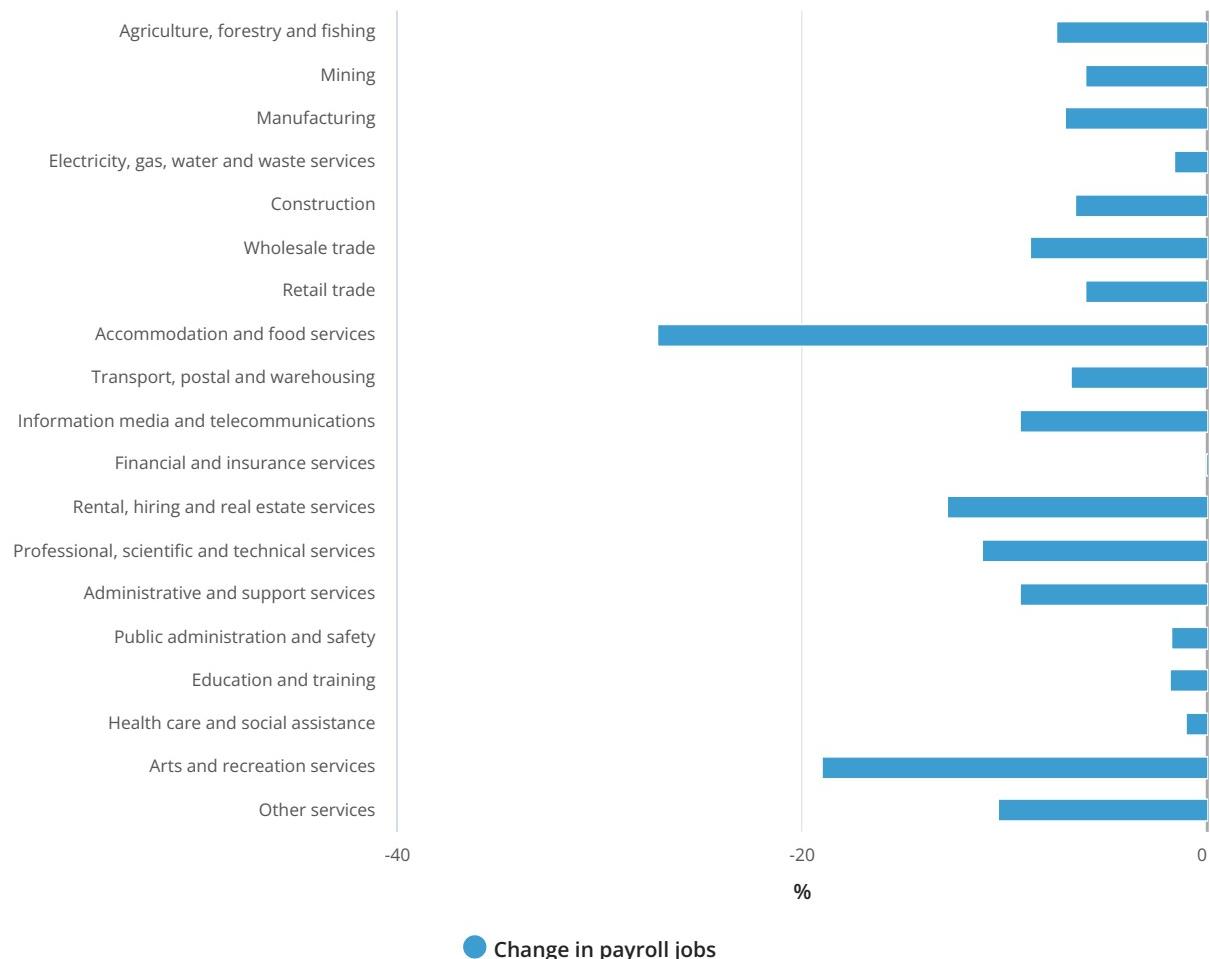
**Table 4 - Changes by industry (a)**

	<b>Change in payroll jobs between 25 April and 2 May</b>	<b>Change in payroll jobs between 14 March and 2 May</b>	<b>Change in total wages between 25 April and 2 May</b>	<b>Change in total wages between 14 March and 2 May</b>
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	-1.2%	-7.4%	1.1%	0.3%
Mining (b)	0.0%	-6.0%	0.0%	-22.2%
Manufacturing	-2.1%	-7.0%	-1.7%	-12.0%
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	-1.5%	-1.6%	-2.1%	-3.1%
Construction	-0.8%	-6.5%	3.6%	-2.2%
Wholesale trade	-5.0%	-8.7%	-1.2%	-10.9%
Retail trade	0.7%	-6.0%	0.7%	-7.8%
Accommodation and food services	5.2%	-27.1%	6.1%	-11.8%
Transport, postal and warehousing	-3.8%	-6.7%	-2.8%	-8.7%
Information media and telecommunications	-5.3%	-9.2%	2.7%	-2.7%
Financial and insurance services (b)	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	-1.0%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	-3.0%	-12.8%	5.1%	-6.6%
Professional, scientific and technical services	-8.0%	-11.1%	-4.3%	-9.3%
Administrative and support services	-1.3%	-9.2%	1.2%	-6.1%
Public administration and safety	0.3%	-1.7%	0.1%	-2.6%
Education and training	2.6%	-1.8%	5.0%	2.0%
Health care and social assistance	-0.6%	-1.0%	2.3%	0.9%
Arts and recreation services	0.7%	-19.0%	10.0%	5.0%
Other services	-0.2%	-10.3%	5.6%	2.6%
<b>All industries</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>	<b>-7.3%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>-5.4%</b>

a. These estimates are revised as additional data become available. Particular care should be exercised in focusing on weekly movements in wages, which are subject to a higher degree of reporting variability and revisions.

b. The Mining industry and Finance industry estimates for the week ending 2 May are based on a higher degree of imputation (given the high proportion of employees paid on a monthly basis) and closely reflect data from the previous week. It is expected this data will be subject to larger than usual revision in subsequent releases.

**Graph 2 - Changes in payroll jobs by industry since 14 March 2020**



## Jobs by Statistical Area 4 (SA4)

The following table presents changes in payroll jobs between the week ending 14 March 2020 (i.e. the week Australia recorded its 100th confirmed COVID-19 case) and the week ending 18 April 2020 at the Statistical Area 4 (SA4) level.

Statistical area 4 (SA4) regions are specifically designed to reflect labour markets within each

state and territory within population limits. In regional areas, SA4s tend to have lower populations (100,000 to 300,000), while in metropolitan areas, SA4s tend to have larger populations (300,000 to 500,000).

For more information, see the [Australian Statistical Geography Standard \(ASGS\); Volume 1 – Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/ProductsbyCatalogue/871A7FF33DF471FBCA257801000DCD5F?OpenDocument) (<https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/ProductsbyCatalogue/871A7FF33DF471FBCA257801000DCD5F?OpenDocument>) (cat. no. 1270.0.55.001).

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## Table 5 - Change by region (a)

**Change in payroll jobs between  
14 March and 18 April**

<b>New South Wales</b>	<b>-6.9%</b>
Capital Region	-7.3%
Central Coast	-5.7%
Central West	-6.3%
Coffs Harbour - Grafton	-11.2%
Far West and Orana	-7.8%
Hunter Valley excluding Newcastle	-6.1%
Illawarra	-6.5%
Mid North Coast	-11.8%
Murray	-8.4%
New England and North West	-6.9%
Newcastle and Lake Macquarie	-6.0%
Richmond - Tweed	-8.4%
Riverina	-7.9%
Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven	-6.6%
Sydney - Baulkham Hills and Hawkesbury	-5.3%
Sydney - Blacktown	-4.4%
Sydney - City and Inner South	-8.9%
Sydney - Eastern Suburbs	-7.3%
Sydney - Inner South West	-6.3%
Sydney - Inner West	-5.9%
Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby	-4.6%
Sydney - Northern Beaches	-6.9%
Sydney - Outer South West	-4.9%
Sydney - Outer West and Blue Mountains	-5.7%
Sydney - Parramatta	-4.9%
Sydney - Ryde	-5.3%
Sydney - South West	-5.6%
Sydney - Sutherland	-5.4%
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>-7.6%</b>
Ballarat	-6.8%
Bendigo	-6.0%
Geelong	-7.0%
Hume	-7.4%
Latrobe - Gippsland	-6.4%

**Change in payroll jobs between  
14 March and 18 April**

Melbourne - Inner	-7.8%
Melbourne - Inner East	-6.0%
Melbourne - Inner South	-6.7%
Melbourne - North East	-6.9%
Melbourne - North West	-7.2%
Melbourne - Outer East	-6.3%
Melbourne - South East	-6.3%
Melbourne - West	-6.9%
Mornington Peninsula	-7.9%
North West	-8.2%
Shepparton	-6.9%
Warrnambool and South West	-8.6%
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>-7.4%</b>
Brisbane - East	-6.9%
Brisbane - North	-5.7%
Brisbane - South	-5.9%
Brisbane - West	-5.4%
Brisbane Inner City	-7.3%
Cairns	-9.1%
Darling Downs - Maranoa	-7.9%
Central Queensland	-6.6%
Gold Coast	-9.0%
Ipswich	-5.0%
Logan - Beaudesert	-5.9%
Mackay - Isaac - Whitsunday	-5.7%
Moreton Bay - North	-5.7%
Moreton Bay - South	-5.5%
Queensland - Outback	-5.0%
Sunshine Coast	-10.2%
Toowoomba	-6.6%
Townsville	-6.5%
Wide Bay	-7.6%
<b>South Australia</b>	<b>-8.0%</b>
Adelaide - Central and Hills	-8.2%
Adelaide - North	-5.6%

<b>Change in payroll jobs between 14 March and 18 April</b>	
Adelaide - South	-7.7%
Adelaide - West	-7.5%
Barossa - Yorke - Mid North	-9.6%
South Australia - Outback	-7.8%
South Australia - South East	-9.7%
<b>Western Australia</b>	<b>-5.8%</b>
Bunbury	-8.5%
Mandurah	-4.5%
Perth - Inner	-6.7%
Perth - North East	-4.8%
Perth - North West	-5.1%
Perth - South East	-4.9%
Perth - South West	-4.6%
Western Australia - Wheat Belt	-7.4%
Western Australia - Outback (North)	-4.9%
Western Australia - Outback (South)	-5.8%
<b>Tasmania</b>	<b>-7.9%</b>
Hobart	-7.2%
Launceston and North East	-7.8%
South East	-9.3%
West and North West	-7.6%
<b>Northern Territory</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>
Darwin	-5.0%
Northern Territory - Outback	-4.6%
<b>Australian Capital Territory</b>	<b>-6.0%</b>
<b>Australia</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>

a. SA4 estimates are subject to a higher degree of reporting volatility and revisions than state and territory level estimates.

## Jobs by industry sub-division

The following table presents changes in payroll jobs between the week ending 14 March 2020 (i.e. the week Australia recorded its 100th confirmed COVID-19 case) and the week ending 18 April 2020 at the ANZSIC sub-division level.

The sub-division level is the second broadest grouping of industries within the Australian and New Zealand Statistical Industrial Classification. Industry sub-divisions are built up from the industry groups which, in turn, are built up from industry classes.

For more, information see the [Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification \(<https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1292.0>\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1292.0)(cat. no. 1292.0).

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## Table 6 - Changes by industry and sub-division (a)

**Change in payroll jobs  
between  
14 March and 18 April**

<b>Agriculture, forestry and fishing</b>	-6.7%
Agriculture	-6.3%
Aquaculture	-4.6%
Forestry and Logging	-4.3%
Fishing, Hunting and Trapping	-11.7%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Support Services	-9.6%
<b>Mining</b>	<b>-6.7%</b>
Coal Mining	-3.2%
Oil and Gas Extraction (b)	-40.5%
Metal Ore Mining	-2.4%
Non-Metallic Mineral Mining and Quarrying	-1.8%
Exploration and Other Mining Support Services	-2.0%
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>-4.6%</b>
Food Product Manufacturing	-5.1%
Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing	-12.1%
Textile, Leather, Clothing and Footwear Manufacturing	-11.8%
Wood Product Manufacturing	-3.6%
Pulp, Paper and Converted Paper Product Manufacturing	0.1%
Printing (including the Reproduction of Recorded Media)	-7.5%
Petroleum and Coal Product Manufacturing	1.5%
Basic Chemical and Chemical Product Manufacturing	1.9%
Polymer Product and Rubber Product Manufacturing	-1.9%
Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	-3.6%
Primary Metal and Metal Product Manufacturing	-6.1%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	-4.9%
Transport Equipment Manufacturing	-2.7%
Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	-2.9%
Furniture and Other Manufacturing	-10.0%
<b>Electricity, gas, water and waste services</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
Electricity Supply	2.9%
Gas Supply	8.9%
Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Services	-1.9%
Waste Collection, Treatment and Disposal Services	-2.8%
<b>Construction</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>

**Change in payroll jobs  
between  
14 March and 18 April**

Building Construction	-5.4%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	-3.8%
Construction Services	-6.2%
<b>Wholesale</b>	<b>-4.1%</b>
Basic Material Wholesaling	-3.1%
Machinery and Equipment Wholesaling	-0.3%
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Wholesaling	-5.8%
Grocery, Liquor and Tobacco Product Wholesaling	-6.4%
Other Goods Wholesaling	-8.5%
Commission-Based Wholesaling	-4.4%
<b>Retail trade</b>	<b>-8.3%</b>
Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Retailing	-8.6%
Fuel Retailing	7.3%
Food Retailing	-4.3%
Other Store-Based Retailing	-10.9%
Non-Store Retailing and Retail Commission Based Buying and/or Selling	-13.3%
<b>Accommodation and food services</b>	<b>-32.6%</b>
Accommodation	-30.8%
Food and Beverage Services	-32.8%
<b>Transport, postal and warehousing</b>	<b>-4.8%</b>
Road Transport	-7.7%
Rail Transport	0.9%
Water Transport	-10.8%
Air and Space Transport	-3.3%
Other Transport	-24.1%
Postal and Courier Pick-up and Delivery Services	-2.1%
Transport Support Services	-2.0%
Warehousing and Storage Services	-1.6%
<b>Information, media and telecommunications</b>	<b>-4.9%</b>
Publishing (except Internet and Music Publishing)	-0.1%
Motion Picture and Sound Recording Activities	-27.9%
Broadcasting (except Internet)	0.6%
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting	9.8%

**Change in payroll jobs  
between  
14 March and 18 April**

Telecommunications Services	-1.5%
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals and Data Processing Services	-2.7%
Library and Other Information Services	10.6%
<b>Financial and insurance services</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
Finance	-0.5%
Insurance and Superannuation Funds	2.3%
Auxiliary Finance and Insurance Services	1.3%
<b>Rental, hiring and leasing services</b>	<b>-10.1%</b>
Rental and Hiring Services (except Real Estate)	-11.2%
Property Operators and Real Estate Services	-9.7%
<b>Professional, scientific and technical services</b>	<b>-2.8%</b>
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (Except Computer System Design and Related Services)	-4.2%
Computer System Design and Related Services	2.5%
<b>Administrative and support services</b>	<b>-8.6%</b>
Administrative Services	-9.2%
Building Cleaning, Pest Control and Other Support Services	-5.7%
<b>Public administration and safety</b>	<b>-2.6%</b>
Public Administration	-3.1%
Public Order, Safety and Regulatory Services	-1.4%
<b>Education and training</b>	<b>-5.9%</b>
Preschool and School Education	-5.2%
Tertiary Education	-1.9%
Adult, Community and Other Education	-25.0%
<b>Health care and social assistance</b>	<b>-2.0%</b>
Hospitals	-1.7%
Medical and Other Health Care Services	-6.3%
Residential Care Services	6.1%
Social Assistance Services	-4.4%
<b>Arts and recreation services</b>	<b>-23.5%</b>
Heritage Activities	-3.7%
Creative and Performing Arts Activities	-29.5%
Sports and Recreation Activities	-29.9%
Gambling Activities	-6.5%

	Change in payroll jobs between 14 March and 18 April
Other services	-9.8%
Repair and Maintenance	-7.6%
Personal and Other Services	-10.9%
Private Households Employing Staff and Undifferentiated Goods and	-6.0%
Service Producing Activities of Household for Own Use	
All industries	-7.1%

- a. Industry subdivision level estimates are subject to a higher degree of reporting volatility and revisions than industry division level estimates.
- b. Particular care should be exercised in using this estimate, which is expected to be subject to high degree of revision in the next release.
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## Interactive map - Jobs by SA4

To view the jobs by statistical area 4 (SA4) - interactive map, click [here](https://absstats.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=8145ccc521ac457bb838ae63355c98b3)

## Data downloads

### I-note

These downloads are currently available in an Excel file format that may not be accessible for users of assistive devices, such as screen readers. [Contact us](mailto:labour.statistics@abs.gov.au) (<mailto:labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>) and we can discuss the best way to meet your needs.

Table 1: National spotlight

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[82.94 KB]

Table 2: State and territory spotlight

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[344.78 KB]

Table 3: Industry spotlight

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[619.9 KB]

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**Table 4: Employee jobs and wages indices**

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[1.01 MB]

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## History of changes

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### Show all

21/05/20 - Column headings updated in Jobs and Wages by State and Territory, Jobs and Wages by Sex, Jobs and Wages by Age Group and Jobs and Wages by Industry.

19/05/2020 - SA4 level estimates for the Australian Capital Territory updated.

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## Methodology

[Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia methodology, Week ending 2 May 2020](#)